

November 20, 2020



## UUCOD Weekly Reminder

### SERVICES

[Click Here to Join Our Worship Services at 10:00 AM](#)

**November 22, 2020**

***Grateful for Caring***

**Worship Leaders: Rev. Ian W. Riddell & the UUCOD Care Team**

**Worship Associate: Bryna Blum**

We know that we cannot thrive without connection and support from the people and communities that sustain us. Join us this morning as we share gratitude and aspirations for how our own religious community supports us and how we can all take part in caring for each other.

**This is Share the Plate Sunday.**

**November 29, 2020**

***A Church of Many Sensibilities: A Sunday with UUs in Asia and the Pacific***

**Worship Leader: Rev. Tet Gallardo**

**Worship Associate: Sarah Gonzales**

We say that the UU Church of the Philippines (UUCP) was founded in 1955. And when our generation tells this story we usually say because of the American Unitarians. That is accurate if we mean the word Unitarian, rooted in what the West calls their Enlightenment and their Renaissance, are in fact values ancient and organic to the East. It is false if we mean that Unitarian values were introduced to the Philippines by the West. It is also true if we mean that Filipinos needed a word for the historical persistence of indigenous humanitarian values in their culture and Unitarian was adopted as a counter-oppression to fundamentalism in the country.

COLLECTIONS BASKET

# "INSPIRATIONAL" QUOTE OF THE WEEK

In the sweetness of friendship let there be laughter, and sharing of pleasures. For in the dew of little things the heart finds its morning and is refreshed.

Khalil Gibran

## CALENDAR

**Sunday Worship:** Sunday @ 10:00 am Live Stream Facebook

**Poetry Class:** Tuesday @ 10:30 am

**Worship Committee:** Tuesday @ 4:30 pm

**Afternoon Book Club:** Friday @ 1:30 pm

### Staying Connected

**Sunday Together:** Sunday @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Loving Kindness Meditation:** Thursday @ 12:00 - 12:30 pm

**Coffee & Conversation:** Friday @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Social BUterflies Happy Hour:** Saturday @ 5:00 - 6:00 pm

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Plate Collections for Sunday, November 15, 2020: \$283.00**

---

### Save December 13 for an Important Congregational Meeting

The Board has called a Congregational Special Business meeting on December 13 after the Sunday Service. The Congregation will be asked to vote on the proposal to extend online streaming after we return to live services and to add large TV screens in the sanctuary. We held an informational session after Sunday Services on November 8 and are now asking for approval in accordance with our By-Laws. Look for additional information in your email!

---



### Alone for Thanksgiving?

For the last few years, Bill & I have hosted Thanksgiving either at our home or at church for people who are not able to be with family or friends for whatever reason. It occurred to us that there are many more of "us" this year and we want to help make Thanksgiving a little more enjoyable.

We originally hoped to put tables in the parking lot at church and have a buffet table with the meal. However, the UUA advises not to serve food in a communal way. With help and creativity from our Board, we have devised a plan. If you and your household would like to

enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving meal, Bill & I will cook the turkeys and stuffing and a team of other people will be cooking food at their homes and they will deliver it to us. Bill & I will assemble a meal for each person in your home. Then our team will form a caravan Thanksgiving afternoon to take the meals to everyone who has signed up. While we won't be together with our UUCOD family, you will be able to enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving meal.

### **YOU MUST SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE.**

Please send an email to [joni@palmcitybooks.com](mailto:joni@palmcitybooks.com) **no later than November 20** if you would like to be on our list and indicate how many meals you will need. PLEASE BE SURE TO INDICATE IF YOU HAVE ANY FOOD ALLERGIES. While we will not be able to customize any meals, we can eliminate an item if there's a food allergy.

---

### **Have YOU Donated to the Toy Drive yet?**

Your donation will be used to purchase toys for the children within CVUSD's Migrant Education Program so they can have a merrier Christmas. Click the link below to do it now and you can check one more item off of your Holiday To-Do List! Questions, email Joni Paddock [joni@palmcitybooks.com](mailto:joni@palmcitybooks.com)

## **TOY DRIVE DONATION**

Hey Holiday Elves! ☐☐ ☐☐

**We need to know ASAP how many boxes of food you elves are donating. You've still got time to participate. We won't be collecting the box until December 4th.**

**Help feed the families of students within CVUSD's Migrant Education Program by collecting these items. Not a shopper? Pay \$50 for the cost of all the items & our elves will do it for you! Contact Joni Paddock at [joni@palmcitybooks.com](mailto:joni@palmcitybooks.com) to sign up now.**

### **Thanks & Giving Food Donation Calendar for CVUSD's Migrant Education Program's Christmas Party**

Each day in November until Thanksgiving, please add the unexpired item listed to a box.

On December 4, bring the completely filled box to UUCOD between 3 - 6 pm.

We'll Deliver it to CVUSD's Migrant Education Program before their Christmas Party.

Email Joni Paddock for Details & to Sign Up



- November 1 - Box of Cereal
- November 2 - Peanut Butter
- November 3 - Cooking Oils (corn, canola, vegetable)
- November 4 - Flour (corn or regular flour)
- November 5 - Macaroni & Cheese
- November 6 - Canned Fruit
- November 7 - Canned Tomato Sauce/Paste
- November 8 - Canned Tuna
- November 9 - Dessert Mix (ex: brownie mixes & already made pudding cups, )
- November 10 - Jar of Applesauce
- November 11 - Canned Sweet Potatoes

November 12 - Dried Herbs/Spices (cinnamon, oregano, bay leaves, salt, sugar)  
November 13 - Bag of Beans (beans, lentils)  
November 14 - Box of Crackers  
November 15 - Package of Rice  
November 16 - Package of Oatmeal  
November 17 - Package Pasta  
November 18 - Spaghetti Sauce  
November 19 - Chicken Noodle Soup  
November 20 - Canned/Powdered Milk (evaporated, condensed & powdered)  
November 21 - Can Corn  
November 22 - Can Mixed Vegetables  
November 23 - Can Carrots  
November 24 - Can Green Beans  
November 25 - Canned Chiles (jalapenos in vinegar sauce)



---

#### **News from the Care Team:**

The Care Team is currently reaching out to members and friends of the congregation to see how you are and how you're doing. Please, if you are in need of support of any kind, let us know. We are here for you, so don't be shy...

Stay well and stay safe.

Bryna Blum  
Chair, Care Team

---

#### **UUCOD Afternoon Book Group**

The afternoon book group will be having a Zoom meeting the last Friday of the month, November 27th, at 1:30 p.m. Please join us to discuss *The Sympathizer*. It is the 2015 debut novel by Vietnamese American professor Viet Thanh Nguyen. It is a best-selling novel and recipient of the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction.

The novel fits the expectations of a number of different novel genres: immigrant, mystery, political, historical fiction, dark comedic, spy, and war. The story depicts the anonymous narrator, a North Vietnamese mole in the South Vietnamese army, who stays embedded in a South Vietnamese community in exile in the United States. Nguyen weaves an intricate, layered story of a character who faces the cataclysmic dread of being found out on a daily (if not hourly) basis, yet who also desperately wants to find his own identity and place himself within a familiar and familial context. Yes, he identifies as a double agent, but he also identifies as "illegitimate, bastard, Eurasian, Amerasian, love child, natural child."

**Contact Lavonne Swanson** if you would like to receive the needed Zoom information to join in the discussion.

---

#### **Art Talk Blurb**

Calling all UUCOD creative types! Join us for an informal Zoom conversation of ArtTalk on Monday, November 30, 5:00 pm PT. Works in progress welcome. We'll talk about what we

are doing artwise, however we define that. Let's share, inspire, and support. Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can. Screen sharing will be available. Have a few jpgs in your photo library. If you're uncertain how screen sharing works, especially for iPads, join the meeting early and we'll walk you through it. Having something to show is not a requirement.

## Trans Day of Remembrance is Today, November 20

Today the Daily Sun printed part of Reverend Barbara's November 8 sermon on Trans Day of Remembrance. In her own words, the day was created "to raise awareness of hate crimes against transgender people, and to publicly mourn and honor the lives of those lost to violence, and this year, to COVID-19. By remembering, we can pledge ourselves anew to not only do less harm but to grow our affirmation and bless and celebrate the whole beautiful diversity of our human family." Read more of her sermon by clicking on the button below.

[CLICK TO READ ARTICLE](#)

## AUCTION RECAP

### AUCTION RECAP - BY THE NUMBERS

- 61 Live Auction attendees
- 37 Silent Auction attendees
- 33 Live Auction items (not including multiples). Additional Live Auction items added *during* live auction.
- 43 Silent Auction items (not including multiples)
- 30 + volunteers

Total raised for UUCOD -- \$20,300 (and still counting...)

When we started planning this auction (specifically the live zoom piece) back in April many people said it could not be done! We were told it was too complicated, too difficult to get bidders informed on procedures, etc. **Fortunately, none of those naysayers were from UUCOD!**

So we all deserve a collective pat on the back! Thank you-a job well done!

## SOCIAL JUSTICE



☐☐☐ WE DID IT!!! Thank you, everyone!!! Regardless of whether you made phone calls, wrote postcards, texted voters, or helped organize actions with UUCOD the Vote, THANK YOU!!!!

Americans showed up in record numbers to make their voices heard! Love, unity, & beliefs within our 7 principles have won more votes than ever before! And you played a part in making this history happen. Your phone conversations, postcards, & texts gave voters the information & encouragement they needed to vote for legislators who will create space for everyone at the table, heal the divisions in our country, & help us move forward together. Take a breath & sit with all you have done. Then celebrate love, unity, & a restoration of our Democracy.

There is more work to do & **UUCOD the Vote** looks forward to doing it with you. But right

---

### **November's Share the Plate to Benefit Holiday Gift Drive for SafeHouse of the Desert's Harrison House**

Our Sunday, November 22nd Share the Plate will benefit SafeHouse of the Desert & Harrison House. Your generous giving will be used to purchase Target e-gift cards from our Scrip program, which they will use to buy their own present. It's just like when your Aunt Edna or Grandpa gave you money at Christmas. You bought what you wanted and needed.

Safehouse of the Desert is a life-saving shelter for youth ages 11 to 17 who have run away from home or whose parents no longer want them there. Some have been victims of human trafficking and have no place to go once they are picked up by police. It is a small shelter, housing 7 girls as of mid October. Harrison House is transitional housing for young adults 18 to 21 years of age, some who have "aged out" of the foster care system and have limited ability and resources to live on their own. There are currently 16 young people living there. As the holidays draw closer, both facilities expect to see more youth and young adults walk through their doors.

Sadly, they have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Program Director Shawn Johnson says that Coachella Valley organizations that have regularly donated funds to the two programs have been unable to provide their typical level of financial support, which staff at Safehouse and Harrison House rely upon to keep these much-needed programs operating. They have had to cut staff, repairs have been postponed, and they are unable to purchase new furniture for the housing units, which has been worn out over years of continued use. Keeping the programs going has been paramount as they can literally be lifesavers for youth in our community. They need financial support now more than ever before.

This is the second Share the Plate that we, the Congregation voted on last May. Your donation will provide a happier holiday for these youth and young adults who have literally nowhere to go and are in need of everything. Please give as generously as you are able. For more information, please call Joyce Adams.

## **Be Safe and Well!**

**Newsletter Deadlines:** The deadline for the Newsletter is always Wednesday morning. If you are going to be late, call or email the Administrator at [admin@uucod.org](mailto:admin@uucod.org) asking to reserve space. The newsletter needs to be on the website by 3:00 pm, Fridays.

---

**Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert**  
72425 Via Vail - Rancho Mirage CA 92270 - (760) 321-0694

